

1996 MAR 21 P 8:59

FINAL REPORT
to the
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH
on
GRANT No. N00014 - 95 - 1 - 1194

for the
Partial Support of the
4th INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON
BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS AND POLYMERS
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Submitted by
Professor Robert W. Lenz, Conference Co-Chair
Polymer Science and Engineering Department
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Amherst, MA 01003
March 1996

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SUMMARY

A grant of \$5,000 from the Office of Naval Research was used to provide financial support for the travel and registration expenses of 15 researchers from American universities (3 faculty members, and 12 graduate students) to participate in the 4th International Workshop on Biodegradable Plastics and Polymers. The workshop was held in Durham, New Hampshire on October 11 - 14, 1995. The total attendance was 178 conferees including representatives from 14 countries. The program included 31 lectures and 69 poster presentations. All of the recipients of financial support from the grant participated actively in the program either as speakers, discussion leaders, in poster presentations or in the operation of the workshop.

INTRODUCTION

A grant of \$5,000 was awarded to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst by the Office of Naval Research, ONR, for the partial support of the 4th International Workshop on Biodegradable Plastics and Polymers. The Workshop was held on the campus at the University of New Hampshire in Durham during the period of October 11 - 14, 1995. Professor Robert W. Lenz of the Polymer Science and Engineering Department was Co-Chair of the Workshop.

The purpose of the grant was to provide financial assistance to young researchers from American universities to help cover the costs of the registration fees and travel expenses. The recipients were either graduate students or younger faculty members, and each was committed to participating in the program as either a speaker, discussion leader, in a poster presentation or in the operation of the Workshop.

PROGRAM

The program of the workshop included 31 lectures and 69 poster presentations. A copy of the Workshop program listing speakers, discussion leader, lecture titles and poster presentations is given in Appendix I. The principal subjects of the lectures and posters were the following:

- (1) New Degradable Polymers

- (2) Processing Biodegradable Polymers
- (3) New Characterization Methods for Biodegradable Polymers and Biodegradation
- (4) Biodegradation Methods and Safety Assessments
- (5) Regulation and Disposal

ATTENDANCE

The attendance list, which was distributed by the conference office, is given in Appendix II. The 178 conferees included representatives from 14 countries, including Austria, Belgium, Canada, England, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the United States.

PARTICIPANTS SPONSORED BY ONR GRANT

The funds from the ONR grant were used to cover either part or all of the registration fees, meals, housing and travel expenses of 12 graduate students and 3 younger faculty members from American universities as indicated in the list below. Two of the faculty members (Otaigbe and Webb) presented lectures and one (Goodwin) was a discussion leader. Ten of the graduate students were involved in poster presentations, and the two others on the list (those who received only \$150) helped as volunteers in the operation of the Workshop. The names, affiliations and funds allotted for each of the recipients of ONR support are as follows:

Name	Position	University	Amount Received, \$
J. Onyari	Grad. Stud.	Connecticut	350
J. Otaigbe	Faculty	Iowa State	425
D. Webb	Faculty	Rhode Island	250
S. Goodwin	Faculty	UMass, Amherst	450
L. Henderson	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	350
M. Rothermich	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Amherst	350
O. Huber	Grad. Stud.	Washington	350
J. M. Mitchell	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	350

NV Kliontchnikova	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	350
N. R. Kouloungis	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	350
Z. Song	Grad. Stud.	Iowa St.	375
S. H. Wang	Grad. Stud.	Iowa St.	375
S.S Zhang	Grad. Stud.	Iowa St.	375
R. Mac Donald	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	150
R. A. Kumar	Grad. Stud.	UMass, Lowell	150

Total	\$5,000
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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188
<p>Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.</p>			
1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)	2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED	
		Final Report	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE		5. FUNDING NUMBERS	
4th. International Workshop on Biodegradable Plastics and Polymers		Nooo14-95-1-1194	
6. AUTHOR(S)			
Robert W. Lenz			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
Polymer Science and Engineering Department University of Massachusetts at Amherst Amherst, MA 01003			
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
Office of Naval Research Regional Office Boston N 628 79 495 Summer Street Room 103 Boston, MA 02210-2109			
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES The views, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Navy position, policy, or decision, unless so designated by other documentation.			
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT		12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
Approved for public release; distribution unlimited			
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)			
<p>A grant of \$5,000 from the Office of Naval Research was used to provide financial support for the travel and registration expenses of 15 researchers from American universities (including 3 faculty members, and 12 graduate students) to participate in the 4th International Workshop on Biodegradable Plastics and Polymers. The workshop was held in Durham, New Hampshire on October 11 - 14, 1995. The total attendance was 178 conferees including representatives from 14 countries. The program included 31 lectures and 69 poster presentations. All of the recipients of financial support from the grant participated actively in the program either as speakers, in poster presentations or in the operation of the workshop.</p>			
14. SUBJECT TERMS		15. NUMBER OF PAGES	
The award is for 12 months in the amount of \$5,000			
16. PRICE CODE			
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT UNCLASSIFIED	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UL

Appendix I

P R O G R A M A G E N D A



Wednesday, October 11

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. REGISTRATION-New England Center Gallery

1:00-5:00 p.m. TUTORIAL SESSION: WASTE DISPOSAL METHODS AND RESOURCE RECOVERY
Organizer: Richard Gross

- Thomas J. Nosker, *Center for Plastics Recycling Research*
 Commingled Plastics Recycling Technology
- Jose M. Sosa, *Fina Oil Chemical Company*
 Reclaiming High Value Chemicals from Waste Plastics

2:45-3:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

- Geoffrey A. Kuter, *Wheelabrator Clean Water Systems, Inc.*
 Composting Technology and Infrastructure for Biodegradable Plastics and Polymers
- Michael M. Fisher, *American Plastics Council*
 Resource Recovery Economics for Post-Consumer Plastics-Complex, Variable, Relative, Local
- Bert Lemmes, *Organic Reclamation and Composting Association, Belgium*
 The Future of Biodegradables in a Sustainable Household Waste Policy

7:00-10:00 p.m. RECEPTION AND REGISTRATION

Thursday, October 12

7:00-8:00 a.m.	BREAKFAST-Woods Restaurant
7:30-9:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION-New England Center Gallery
8:30-Noon	SESSION 1: New Degradable Polymers <i>Organizers and Co-Chairs: Emo Chiellini, Yoshiharu Doi, Richard Gross, Alex Steinbuchel</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A.J. Pennings, <i>University of Groningen, Department of Polymer Chemistry, The Netherlands</i> Biodegradable Polymeric Materials for Meniscus Repair in Internal Fracture Fixation• Yoji Hori, <i>Central Research Laboratory, Takasago International Corp., Japan</i> Synthesis of New Biodegradable Polymers by Ring-Opening Copolymerization
9:30-9:45 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Masao Kunioka, <i>National Institute of Materials and Chemical Research, Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, Japan</i> Biodegradable Hydrogels Prepared from Microbial Poly(γ-glutamic acid) and Poly(ϵ-lysine)• Lee A. Schechtman, <i>The Procter and Gamble Company, Miami Valley Laboratories, USA</i> High-Yield Synthesis of Poly(3-Hydroxybutyrate) of Well-Defined Molecular Weight• Rolf-J. Müller, <i>GBF, Germany</i> Biodegradable Synthetic Polyesters Containing Aromatic Compounds
Noon-1:00 p.m.	LUNCH-Woods Restaurant
1:30-4:00 p.m.	SESSION 2: Processing Biodegradable Polymers <i>Organizers: Stephen McCarthy, Ned Thomas, Mike Cox, Yutaka Tokiwa</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chris Ryan, <i>Cargill, USA</i> Processing Considerations and Applications for Poly(Lactic Acid)-Based Polymers• Vipul Davé, <i>Warner-Lambert, USA</i> Solution and Melt Processing of Biopolymers

- **Takashi Fujimaki, Showa Highpolymer Co., Ltd., Japan**
Processability of a New Biodegradable Aliphatic Polyester
"BIONOLLE"

3:00-3:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

- **Catia Bastioli, Novamont, Italy**
Processing and Properties of Biodegradable Composite
Materials Based on Starch
- **Yutaka Tokiwa, National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology, Japan**
Comparison of Starch Species on Physical Properties of Starch and
Polycaprolactone Blends
- **Stephanie Simmons, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA**
Morphology of Starch Poly(Ethylene-Vinyl Alcohol)
Thermoplastic Blends

4:30-6:00 p.m. SESSION 3: Poster Session A

6:00-7:30 p.m. DINNER-Woods Restaurant

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Friday, October 13

7:00-8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST-Woods Restaurant

8:30-Noon SESSION 4: New Characterization Methods for Biodegradable Polymers and Biodegradation
Organizers: Bob Marchessault, Michel Vert, Sam Huang, Richard Wool

- Sheila Browne, *Mount Holyoke College, USA*
Monitoring The Formation and Degradation of
Poly(b-hydroxyalkanoates), PHA's, *In Vivo* using Natural
Abundance ^{13}C -NMR Spectroscopy
- Alberto Ballistreri, *Universita degli Studi di Catania, Catania, Italy*
Characterization of Bacterial Poly(3-hydroxyalkanoates) by
Mass Spectrometry Analysis of their Degradation Products

9:30-9:45 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

- Philippa J. Hocking, *McGill University, Canada*
Methods for Characterizing the Enzymatic Degradability of
Synthetic PHB
- Christian Braud, *CNRS, France*
Capillary Electrophoresis to Monitor the Formation of
Water-Soluble Oligomers of Hydroxyacids
- William Orts, *NIST, USA*
Small Angle Neutron Scattering Study of the Chirality and Order in
Cellulose and Chitin Liquid Crystals

Noon-1:00 p.m. LUNCH-Woods Restaurant

1:30-4:00 p.m. SESSION 5: Biodegradation Methods and Environmental Safety Assessments
Organizers: Graham Swift, Jean Mayer, Chuck Pettigrew,
Ann-Christine Albertsson

- Richard Bartha, *Rutgers University, USA*
Methods of Assessment of the Biodegradation of Polymers in Soil
- Michael B. Freeman, *Rohm and Haas Co., USA*
The Risks of Risk Assessment for Biodegradable Polymers-
Sodium Polyaspartate as a Case Study

- Donald G. Webb, *University of Rhode Island, USA*
**Marine Benthic Toxicity Testing Using Flow-Through Chambers:
A Systems Approach?**
- Robert J. Larson, *The Procter & Gamble Co., USA*
**Environmental Fate of Biodegradable Polymers: Sewage and
Solid-Waste Disposal Considerations**

3:00-3:15 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

- Ann-Christine Albertsson, *The Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden*
**Chromatographic Fingerprinting: A Method for Better Understanding
Degradative Mechanisms in Different Environments**
- U. Pagga, *BASF AG, Germany*
**Biodegradability and Compostability of Polymers- Test Methods and
Criteria for Evaluation and Classification**

4:30-6:00 p.m.

SESSION 6: Poster Session B

7:00-10:00 p.m.

BANQUET-Woods Restaurant

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Saturday, October 14

7:00-8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST-Woods Restaurant

8:30-9:30 a.m. SPECIAL SESSION: Student Presentations for Awardees

9:30-Noon SESSION 7: Regulation and Disposal
Organizers: Denise Rutherford, Ramani Narayan, Rolf-Joachin Müller, Steve Goodwin

- Werner Bidlingmaier, *Universität Essen, Germany*
Biodegradable Plastics in Composting
- Luc De Baere, *Organic Waste Systems, Belgium*
The Introduction of Bioplastics in Belgium

10:30-10:45 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

- Tetsuya Hamabe, *Biochemical Industry Division of Ministry of International Trade & Industry, Japan, and*
Kazuhiko Fukuda, *Biodegradable Plastics Society, Japan*
Composting Demonstration Project and Japanese Policy and
Regulations for Biodegradable Plastics
- Irshad Ahmed, *Booz, Allen & Hamilton, Inc., USA*
EPA Policy on Biodegradable Plastics

12:15 p.m. ADJOURN

12:15-1:15 p.m. LUNCH-Woods Restaurant

POSTER PRESENTATIONS SESSION A

Thursday Afternoon, October 12 (4:30-6 pm)

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION

1. Hann, W. M., G. Swift, and P. Zini. (Rohm and Haas Company Spring House, PA, U.S.A.)
Biodegradable Poly(Aspartic Acid) as a Multifunctional Additive for North Sea Oil Extraction Operations
2. Jedlinski, Z., G. Adamus, H. Janeczek, M. Kowalcuk, T. Scherer, and R. W. Lenz. (Institute of Polymer Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, 41-800 Zabrze, Poland)
Biodegradation of Poly(Methyl Methacrylate) Block Copolymers with Aliphatic Polyesters
3. Onyari, J. M., and S. J. Huang. (Polymer Science Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, 97 North Eagleville Road, U-136, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
Copolymers Derived from Lactic Acid, Mandelic Acids and Caprolactone
4. Hagino, Y., and S. J. Huang. (Polymer Science Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, 97 North Eagleville Road, U-136, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
Chitosan Film Crosslinked with N-Hydroxysuccinimide Activated Ester
5. Lostocco, M. R., and S. J. Huang. (Polymer Science Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, 97 North Eagleville Road, U-136, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
The Miscibility of Poly(lactic acid) with Selected Dialkyl Esters and their Analogous Oligoesters
6. Lostocco, M. R., and S. J. Huang. (Polymer Science Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, 97 North Eagleville Road, U-136, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
The Synthesis and Characterization of Hydrogenous Poly(Alkylene succinates) and their Perdeuterated Analogues
7. Kim, S. H., and S. J. Huang. (Polymer Science Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, 97 North Eagleville Road, U-136, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
Poly(Amide-Ester)s from p-Aminobenzoic Acid
8. Goodner, M. D., and C. N. Bowman. (Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Colorado, Campus Box 424, Boulder, CO, U.S.A.)
Kinetic Modeling of Polymer Networks with Degradable Crosslinks
9. Feil, H., and D. de Wit. (Agrotechnological Research Institute, Postbus 17, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands)
Compostable, High Swelling Starch-Based Hydrogels
10. Evans, S. L., T. Hammond, and M. B. Huglin. (Department of Chemistry and Applied Chemistry, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, England)
The Modification of Poly(Hydroxybutyrate-Co-Valerate)
11. Cromwick, A.-M., T. Foglia, and R. W. Lenz. (Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 600 East Mermaid Lane, Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.)
The Microbial Production of Poly(Hydroxyalkanoates) from Tallow

12. Choe, S., Y.-J. Cha, H.-S. Lee, J. S. Yoon, and H.J. Choi. (Department of Chemical Engineering, Polymer Science and Engineering Research Institute, Inha University, Inchon 402-751, Republic of Korea)
Miscibility of Poly(3-Hydroxybutyrate-Co-3-Hydroxyvalerate) (PHB-HV) and Poly(vinylchloride) (PVC) Blends
13. Bruno, F. F., J. A. Akkara, D. L. Kaplan, R. Gross, J. S. Dordick, and G. Swift. (U.S. Army Natick RD&E Center, Kansas Street, Natick, MA, U.S.A.)
Enzymatic Modification of Polysaccharides
14. Babcock, T., H. Goel, J. Otaigbe, and J. Jane. (Iowa State University, 1335 Food Sciences Building, Ames, IA, U.S.A.)
Making Biodegradable Plastic Articles from Soya Beans
15. Klioutchnikova, N. V., R. A. Gross, and S. P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Investigation of Sorption Behavior of Polysaccharide-Water System
16. Wang, L., W. Ma, R. Gross, and S.P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Reactive Blends of Poly(Lactic Acid) and Poly(Ethylene Glycol) II. Diepoxy as Coupling Agent by Extrusion
17. Kumar, R. A., R. A. Gross, and S. P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Aqueous Processing of Konjac
18. Levit, M. R., R. A. Gross, and S. P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Composites based on Poly(Lactic Acid) and Cellulosic Fibrous Materials

BIODEGRADATION

19. Agarwal, M., D. Y. Tseng, K. Koelling, and J. J. Chalmers. (Department of Chemical Eng., The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, U.S.A.)
Biodegradation & Characterization of Poly-Lactic Acid Polymer Film in a Composting System
20. N. E.-S. Yousef, and J. A. Cameron. (Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Connecticut, 75 North Eagleville Road, U-44, Room TLS 265, Storrs, CT, U.S.A.)
Poly(Hydroxybutyrate-Co-Hydroxyvalerate) Depolymerases
21. Chaput, C., A. Leroy-Galissot, L. H. Yahia, A. Selmani, and C.-H. Rivard. (Biomedical Engineering Institute, Ecole Polytechnique, P.O. Box 6079, Stat. Downtown, Montreal, Canada)
Hydrolytic Degradation of Bacterial PHB/HV Polyesters Under Physiological and Accelerated Conditions
22. Chaput, C., L. H. Yahia, A. Selmani, and C.-H. Rivard. (Biomedical Engineering Institute, Ecole Polytechnique, P.O. Box 6079, Stat. Downtown, Montreal, Canada)
Biodegradable Porous PHB/HV Materials. A Microscopic, Physical and Mechanical Study
23. Chaput, C., A. Leroy-Galissot, S. Rhalmi, A. Selmani, and C.-H. Rivard. (Biomedical Engineering Institute, Ecole Polytechnique, P.O. Box 6079, Stat. Downtown, Montreal, Canada)
In Vivo Tissue Reactions and Biodegradation Effects Toward Bacterial PHB/HV Polyesters

24. Hiltunen, K., M. Härkönen, J. Seppälä, and M. Itävaara. (Department of Chemical Engineering, Helsinki University of Technology, Kemistintie 1, FIN-02150 Espoo, Finland)
The Degradation of Lactic Acid Based Poly(Ester-Urethane)

25. Lehmann, R. G., S. Varaprat, and J. R. Miller. (Dow Corning Corporation, Health & Environmental Sciences, Midland, MI, U.S.A.)
Degradation of Polydimethylsiloxanes in the Soil Environment

26. Fink, A.-B., W.-R. Müller, & A. Schäfer. (Akademischer Oberrat, Institut für Siedlungswasserbau, Wassergüte- und Abfallwirtschaft, Abt. Biologie, Bandtäle 1, D-70569 Stuttgart, Germany)
Biodegradability of Polymers, Comparison of Aerobic and Denitrifying Conditions in Aqueous Systems

27. Jörg, R., and W.-R. Müller. (Akademischer Oberrat, Institut für Siedlungswasserbau, Wassergüte- und Abfallwirtschaft, Abt. Biologie, Bandtäle 1, D-70569 Stuttgart, Germany)
Methanomat, an Automatized Screening Test Device for the Examination of Anaerobic Biodegradation

28. Nakayama, A., N. Kawasaki, S. Aiba, and N. Yamamoto. (Dept. of Organic Materials, Osaka National Research Institute, AIST, 1-8-31 Midorigoaka, Ikeda, Osaka 563, Japan)
Synthesis and Biodegradability of Novel Copolyesters Containing γ -Butyrolactone Units

29. Richards, R., R. W. Lenz, R. C. Fuller, and S. Goodwin. (Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.)
Isolation and Characterization of a Versatile Poly(β -Hydroxyoctanoate)-Degrading Bacterium from Compost

30. Rothermich, M., U. D'Ambrosio, R. W. Lenz, R. C. Fuller, and S. Goodwin. (Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.)
Poly(β -hydroxyalkanoate) Accumulation by Bacterial Isolates from Stratified Microbial Mat

31. Rothermich, M., U. D'Ambrosio, R. W. Lenz, R. C. Fuller, and S. Goodwin. (Department of Microbiology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.)
Quantification and Characterization of Naturally-Occurring Poly(β -hydroxyalkanoates) in Stratified Microbial Mat

32. Kouloungis, N. R., R. E. Farrell, S. P. McCarthy, D. Eberiel, and R.A. Gross. (NSF-Biodegradable Polymer Research Center, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Biodegradability of Citrate Ester Plasticizers

33. Levit, M. R., R. E. Farrel, R. A. Gross, and S.P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Biodegradable Plastic-Paper Composites: Influence of Structure on Mechanical Properties and Kinetics of Biodegradation

34. MacDonald, R. T., S. P. McCarthy, and R. A. Gross, (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Effects of Stereochemistry and Crystallinity on the Enzymatic Degradation of Polylactide Stereocopolymers

35. Parandoosh, S., R. E. Farrell, R. G. Jackson, R. A. Gross, D. T. Eberiel, and S. P. McCarthy (NSF-Biodegradable Polymer Research Center and University of Massachusetts Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Biodegradation of Natural/Syndiotactic Poly(3-Hydroxybutyrate)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS SESSION B



Friday Afternoon, October 13 (4:30-6 pm)

SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION

36. Espartero, J. L., S. M. Li, I. Rashkov, N. Manolova, and M. Vert. (C.R.B.A., Faculté de Pharmacie, 15, Avenue Charles Flahault, 34060 Montpellier, France)
Insights into ^1H NMR Analysis in the PLA Family

37. Li, S. M., P. Foch, J. L. Espartero, and M. Vert. (C.R.B.A., Faculté de Pharmacie, 15, Avenue Charles Flahault, 34060 Montpellier, France)
More Information from ^1H NMR Analysis of Lactic Acid-Containing Degradable Polymers.
The Case of PLACL Copolymers

38. Kylmä, I., M. Härkönen, and J. V. Seppälä. (Department of Chemical Engineering, Helsinki University of Technology, Kemistintie 1, FIN-02150 Espoo, Finland)
The Control of T_g in Biodegradable Poly(ester-urethanes)

39. Lee, K. H., B. S. Jin, and K. S. Yoon. (Department of Polym. Sci. & Tech., Inha University, Inchon 402-751, Korea)
Characterization of Structure and Orientation in Uniaxially Stretched Aliphatic Polyester Films

40. Yoon, K. S., and K. H. Lee. (Dept. of Polym. Sci. & Tech., Inha University, Inchon 402-751, Korea)
Effect of Processing Conditions on Structure and Property of Aliphatic Polyester Blown Films

41. Orava, P. A., M. P. Hiljanen-Vainio, T. Karjalainen, and J. V. Seppälä. (Department of Chemical Engineering, Helsinki University of Technology, Kemistintie 1, FIN-02150 Espoo, Finland)
The Adjustment of T_g of ϵ -Caprolactone/DL-Lactide Copolymers

42. Reddig, M. A., J. A. Kornfield, and L. A. Schechtman. (Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, 210-41, Pasadena, CA, U.S.A.)
Melt Rheology, Stress-Optical Properties and Thermal Behavior of PHBs of Varying Stereo-Regularity

43. Sarbolouki, M. N. (Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Tehran University, P.O. Box 13148-1384, Tehran, Iran)
Synthesis of Poly(DL-Lactide-Co-DL-3,6-Dimethyl Morpholine-2,5-Dione)

44. Song, Z., and J.-L. Jane. (Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, U.S.A.)
Graft Copolymerization of Some Vinyl Monomers onto Soybean Protein

45. Stading, M., and A. Leufvén. (Chalmers University of Technology, SIK-the Swedish Institute for Food Research, PO Box 5401, S-402 29, Göteborg, Sweden)
Permeability and Mechanical Properties of β -Lactoglobulin Films

46. Taigel, G., A. Trinkner, and M. Bruckschlegel. (Institut Für Kunststoffpräfung und Kunststoffkunde (IKP), Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 32, D-70569 Stuttgart, Deutschland)
Biodegradable Packaging Materials Physical-Chemical Characterization of PHB/PCL Copolymers by Size Exclusion Chromatography (GPC) and Mass Spectrometric Detection (GC-MS)

47. Takemura, H., M. Tabuchi, K. Watanabe, T. Tsuchida, Y. Morinaga, Y. Sone, F. Horii, and F. Yoshinaga. (Bio-Polymer Research Co., Ltd., 3-2-1 Sakato, Takatsu, Kawasaki 213, Japan)
Water-Soluble Polysaccharide Produced by Cellulose-Producing Bacteria, *Acetobacter Xylinum* Subsp. *Sucrofermentans* BPR2001

48. Uchida, H., R. Tanaka, T. Kurihashi, and M. Kawashima. (Tsukuba Research Laboratories, 27, Wadai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 300-42 Japan)
Biodegradation of Liquid Polymer with Polyethylene Glycol Side Chain

49. Zhang, Q. Q., L. Ren, C. Wang, and L. R. Liu. (Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, P.O. Box 25(204), Tianjin 300192, P.R. China)
Crystallization and Mechanical Properties of PVA-Collagen Composite

50. Tan, I. K. P., E. S. Stuart, R. W. Lenz, and R. C. Fuller. (Department of Polymer Science, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.)
Pseudomonas oleovorans Polymerase Flexibility: *In Vivo* and *In Vitro* Evaluation through a Regimen of Co-feeding

51. Wu, B., T. Scherer, R. W. Lenz, and R. C. Fuller. (Department of Chemistry, University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA, U.S.A.)
Ring-Opening Copolymerization of (R,S)-3-Butyrolactone and 4-Butyrolactone: A Synthetic Route to Bacterial Copolyester

52. van Vilsteren, G., T. Jongsma, and M. Fossen. (Instiyyuut voor Agrotechnologisch Onderzoek, Bornsesteeg 59, Postbus 17, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands)
Fiber Reinforced Caseinate

53. Stenhouse, P., J. A. Ratto, and M. Auerbach. (U.S. Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center, Natick, MA, U.S.A.)
Effect of Starch on the Processability, Biodegradation and Mechanical Properties of a Biodegradable Polyester

BIODEGRADATION

54. Hoshino, A., H. Sawada, and M. Kimura. (Biodegradable Plastics Society, 10-5, Shimbashi 5-Chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105, Japan)
Field Testing of Biodegradable Plastics

55. Scherer, T. M., S. Goodwin, R. C. Fuller, and R. W. Lenz. (Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.)
Fungal Degradation of Aliphatic Polyesters

56. Shaw, K., J. Watts, B. Harrigan, and M. Day. (National Research Council, Building M-12, Room B-22, Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada)
Assessment of the Degradability (Bio-, Thermal and Thermo-Hydrolytic) of a Series of Commercial Degradable Polymers

57. Stote, R., K. Dixon, J. Mayer, and D. Kaplan (Department of the Army, U.S. Army Soldier Systems, Comm& (PROV), Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center, Natick, MA, U.S.A.)
Development of an Accelerated Laboratory Soil System for Polymer Degradation

58. Pranamuda, H., Y. Tokiwa, and H. Tanaka. (National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305 Japan)
Microbial Degradation of High-Molecular-Weight Polylactide

59. Torres, A., S. M. Li, S. Roussos, and M. Vert. (Laboratory of Biotechnology, ORSTOM. 911, Av. d'Agropolis, B. P. 5045, 34032 Montpellier, France)
Fate of Lactic Acid Polymers (PLA) in the Presence of Selected Microorganisms

60. van der Zee, M., J. H. Stoutjesdijk, P. A. A. W. van der Heijden, and D. de Wit. (Instituut voor Agrotechnologisch, Onderzoek (ATO-DLO), Bornsesteeg 59, Postbus 17, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands)
Structure-Biodegradation Relationships of Polymeric Materials

61. Yamamoto, N., A. Nakayama, N. Kawasaki, K. Hayashi, and S. Aiba. (Department of Organic Materials, Osaka National Research Institute, AIST 1-8-31, Midorigaoka, Ikeda, Osaka 563 Japan)
Biodegradation of Copolyesteramides

62. Yasin, M., and J. L. Foster. (Aston University, Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Aston Triangle, Birmingham, B4 7ET, UK)
Polyhydroxybutyrate-Hydroxyvalerate Based Blends: Biodegradation in Extreme Environments

63. Yasin, M., N. Arif, T. Ali, A. J. Amass, and B. J. Tighe. (Aston University, Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Aston Triangle, Birmingham, B4 7ET, UK)
Multi-Component Biodegradable Polycaprolactone Blends

64. Mitchell, J. M., R. E. Farrell, T. J. Adamczyk, R. A. Gross, S. P. McCarthy, and D. T. Eberiel. (NSF-Biodegradable Polymer Research Center, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Aerobic Biodegradation of Polymeric Materials in Soil

65. Cai, H., X. J. Wang, R. A. Gross and S. P. McCarthy (NSF Center for Biodegradable Polymer Research, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA, U.S.A.)
Biodegradability of Poly(Lactic Acid) Blends with Poly(Vinyl Acetate) and Poly(Vinyl Alcohol Co-Vinyl Acetate)

66. Paplomatas, J., Th. Evangelou, and C. Panayiotou. (Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Thessaloniki, 54006 Thessaloniki, Greece)
Biodisintegration of Starch and Polyethylene Blends

67. Wheeler, A. P., Y. Tang, P. K. Dighe, and R. J. Ross. (Department of Biological Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC, U.S.A.)
Bacterial Degradation of Thermal Poly(Aspartate)

68. Snook, J. B., and R. Narayan (Michigan Biotechnology Institute and BioPlastics, Inc., 3900 Collins Rd., Lansing, MI, U.S.A.)
Factors Affecting the Application of ASTM Standard D 5338 to Measure Biodegradability

69. Narayan, R., A. Gustafson, & S. Bloembergen. (EverCorn, Inc., A Joint Venture Company of Japan Corn Starch, Nagoya, Japan and Grand River Technologies/Michigan Biotechnology Institute, 3900 Collins Road, Lansing, MI, U.S.A.)
Aerobic Biodegradation of Starch Esters under Controlled Composting Conditions

Appendix II

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

1. Mr. Jerry Adduci
Rochester Inst. of Technology
Dept. of Chemistry
Rochester, NY 14623
716-475-2545
2. Mr. Mukul Agarwal
Ohio State University
140 W. 19th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210-1180
614-292-6591
3. Mr. Irshad Ahmed
Renewable Energy & Biotechnol
BOOZ Allen & Hamilton
2400 16th Street NW MS-332
Washington, DC 20009-6619
202-797-7524
4. Ms. Ann-Christine Albertsson
Royal Institute of Technology
Dept. of Polymer Technology
S-100 44
Stockholm,
4687908274
5. Mr. Minako Arichi
Toyobo Co., Ltd.
Katata 2-1-1
Ohtsu, Shiga 520-02
0775-21-1477
6. Mr. Richard Armentrout
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.
6650 Lusk Blvd.
Ste. B-106
San Diego, CA 92121
619-455-8500
7. Dr. Jawed Asrar
Monsanto
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63167
314-694-1291
8. Mr. Tim Babcock
Iowa State University
1335 Food Sciences Bldg.
Ames, IA 50011
515-294-5977
9. Mr. Alberto Ballistreri
Dipartimento Scienze Chimiche
Viale A. Doria, 6
Catania, 95125
3995339926
10. Dr. Richard Bartha
Rutgers University
Dept. Biochemistry & Microbio
Cook College
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0231
908-932-9739
11. Mr. Frederic Baude
H.B. Fuller Co.
1200 Wolters Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55110
612-481-3390
12. Mr. Mrinal Bhattacharya
University of Minnesota
1390 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
612-625-5234
13. Dr. Werner Bidlingmaier
Universitat-GH-Essen
Universitätsstr.
15D-45141
Essen,
201-183-3794
14. Dr. Christian Braud
CRBA VRA CNRS 1465
15 Ave. Charles Flahault
Montpellier, 34060
33-67418262

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

15. Dr. Sheila Browne Mount Holyoke College Chemistry Department South Hadley, MA 01076	16. Mr. Charles Buchanan Eastman Chemical Co. Research Laboratories P.O. Box 1972 Kingsport, TN 37662 615-229-8562
17. Mr. Victor Bull Union Carbide Corp. 39 Old Ridgebury Rd. Danbury, CT 06817 203-794-2558	18. Mr. Richard Burkhart University of Nevada at Reno Dept. of Chemistry Reno, NV 89557 702-784-6041
19. Mr. J.A. Cameron University of Connecticut Dept. of Molecular & Cell Bio U-44 Storrs, CT 06269-3044 203-486-4252	20. Dr. Goran Canback Molnlycke AB Research & Technology Gotenborg, S-40503 46317461318
21. Mr. Graham Chapman Novon Technology 181 Cooper Avenue Tonawanda, NY 14150-6645 716-874-8696	22. Mr. Cyril Chaput Chemical Eng./Biomedical Eng. P.O. Box 6079 Station Downtown Montreal, Quebec H3C3A7 514-340-4689
23. Mr. Liang Chen USDA/ARS 1815 N. University St. Peoria, IL 61604 309-681-6338	24. Mr. Emo Chiellini University of Pisa Dept. of Industrial Chem. via Risorgimento 35 Pisa, 56126 39-50-918299
25. Mr. Soonja Choe Inha University Namku Yong Hyun Dong 253 Inchon 402-751, 232-860-7467	26. Mr. David Coffin U.S. Dept. of Agriculture 600 E. Mermaid Lane Wyndmoor, PA 19038 215-233-6484
27. Mr. Glenn Creamer R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. 950 Reynolds Blvd. Bldg. 611-1/210B Winston Salem, NC 27105 910-741-4679	28. Dr. Anne-Marie Cromwick USDA 600 East Mermaid Lane Philadelphia, PA 19118 215-233-6483

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

29. Mr. Vipul Dave
Warner Lambert Co.
175 Tabor Rd.
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
201-540-7845

30. Ms. Kristen Dixon
Geo-Centers
190 North Main St.
Natick, MA 01760
508-651-8147

31. Dir. Yoshiharu Doi
Polymer Chemistry Lab
RIKEN
Hirosawa
Wako-shi, Saitama 351-01
81-48-462-1111

32. Mr. Takashi Endo
Shikoku Natl. Industrial Rese
2217-17 Hayashi-cho
Takamatsu, 761-03
81-878-69-3511

33. Dr. Jose Luis Espartero
C.R.B.A.
Faculte de Pharmacie
15 Avenue Charles Flahault\\
Montpellier, 34060
33-67-41-82-64

34. Ms. Samantha Evans
University of Salford
Dept. of Chemistry
Salford, M54WT
0161-745-5000

35. Dr. H. Feil
ATO-DLO
P.O. Box 17
Wageningen, 6700 AA
31317475028

36. Mr. Michael Fisher
American Plastics Council
1275 K St. NW
Ste. 400
Washington, DC 20005
202-371-5356

37. Mr. Edward Frappier
Morflex, Inc.
2110 Highpoint Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27403
910-292-1781

38. Mr. Michael Freeman
Rohm and Haas Co.
727 Norristown Rd.
Spring House, PA 19477
215-641-7257

39. Mr. Takashi Fujimaki
Bionolle Project
Showa Highpolymer Co., Ltd.
3-20 Kanda Nishiki-Cho
Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 101
81-3-3293-8411

40. Mr. Kazuhiko Fukuda
Biodegradable Plastics Societ
10-5 Shimbashi 5-chome.
Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105

41. Mr. James Giatras
Bemis Manufacturing
P.O. Box 901
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
414-467-4621

42. Mr. Daniel Goldberg
Union Carbide Corp.
P.O. Box 670
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
908-563-5466

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

43. Mr. Michael Goodner University of Colorado Dept. of Chem. Engineering CB Boulder, CO 80309 303492-0927	44. Mr. Steve Goodwin Univ. of Mass. at Amherst Morrill Science Center Amherst, MA 01003 413-545-4604
45. Mr. Goran Gransbo Surface Materials Molnlycke AB Sekt. 57 Gothenburg, S-40503	46. Mr. Richard Gross UMASS Lowell Chemistry Dept. One University Ave. Lowell, MA 01854 508-934-3676
47. Dr. Patrick Gruber EcoPLA Development and Operat Cargill, Inc. 2301 Crosby Road Wayzata, MN 55391 612-742-6773	48. Mr. Vince Gruber Amerchol Corp. 136 Talmadge Rd. P.O. Box 4051 Edison, NJ 08818-4051 908-563-5735
49. Mr. Jyrki Hakola Neste Oy Chemicals Dev. Projects POB310 Porvoo, FIN-06101 358-15-5417716	50. Ms. Kayte Halstead Planet Polymer 9985 Business Park Ave. San Diego, CA 92131 619-549-5130
51. Mr. Tetsuya Hamabe Ministry of Intl. Trade 1-3-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100 517-355-7828	52. Dr. Hanggi Biomer Forst-Kasten-Str. 15 D-82152, Krailling 49898572665
53. Mr. William Hann Rohm & Haas 727 Norristown Rd. Spring House, PA 19477 215-641-7261	54. Mr. Mark Hartmann Cargill Inc. 2301 Crosby Road Wayzata, MN 55391 612-742-5787
55. Ms. Victoria Haynes The BFGoodrich Company 9921 Brecksville Road Brecksville, OH 44141	56. Ms. Lori Henderson Univ. of Mass. at Lowell 1 University Ave. Lowell, MA 01854 508-934-3708

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

57. Mr. Yoshio Hiramoto
Showa Denko America Inc.
280 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10017
212-687-0773

58. Mr. Jamie Hobbs
University of Bristol
H.H. Wills Physics Dept.
Tyndall Ave.
Bristol, BS81TL
0441179288747

59. Ms. Philippa Hocking
McGill University
3420 University Street
Montreal, Quebec H3A2A7
398-6021

60. Mr. Yoji Hori
Takasago Intl. Corp.
1-4-11, Nishi-Yawata
Hiratsuka, Kanagawa 254
81-463-25-2198

61. Mr. Liou Horng
Monsanto Company
700 Chesterfield Pky. North
St. Louis, MO 63198
314-537-7457

62. Mr. Akira Hoshino
Dainichi-Seika Color & Chemic
9-4 Horinouchi 1-Chome
Adachi-Ku, Tokyo 123
03-3899-5670

63. Mr. Samuel Huang
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269-3136
203-486-4627

64. Ms. Anne Huber
University of Washington
Center for Bioengineering
Box 357962
Seattle, WA 98195
206-543-1462

65. Mr. Jay-lin Jane
Iowa State University
1333 Food Science Bldg.
Ames, IA 50011
515-294-9892

66. Mr. Zbigniew Jedlinski
Center of Polymer Chemistry
M. Curie-Sklodowska St., 34
Zabrze, 41-800
048-3-1716077

67. Mr. Adel Kafrawy
Johnson & Johnson Professional
325 Paramount Dr.
Raynham, MA 02767
508-880-8473

68. Dr. David Kaplan
U.S. Army Natick RD&E Center
Kansas Street
Natick, MA 01760-5020
508-651-5525

69. Mr. Hannu Karhuketo
UPM/Walki Lamicoat
P.O.B. 33
Valkeakoski, FIN-37601

70. Mr. Akihiko Kawakita
Japan Corn Starch Co., LTD.
Tamatsuura 1
Hekinan, Aichi 447
81-566-42-3138

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

71. Dr. Henn Kilkson DuPont Co. Experimental Station Bldg. 30 Rm. 9202 Wilmington, DE 19880-0304 302-695-2971	72. Mr. Ronald Komarek Eastman Chemical Co. Box 1955 Kingsport, TN 37662 615-224-9256
73. Dr. Marek Kowalczuk Center of Polymer Chemistry M. Curie-Sklodowska St., 34 Zabrze, 41-800 048-3-1716077	74. Mr. Yoshiharu Kumagai Procter & Gamble Far East, In 1-17, Koyo-cho Naka Higashinada-Ku Kobe, Hyogo 658 81-78-845-5501
75. Mr. Steven Kumiega University of Mass. at Lowell 1 University Ave. Olney Bldg. Rm. 509 Lowell, MA 01854 508-934-3712	76. Mr. Masao Kunioka Natl. Inst. Materials & Chem. 1-1 Higashi Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki 305 81-298-54-6344
77. Mr. Soichiro Kurachi Japan Corn Starch Co., LTD 22nd Nagoya Tokio Kaijo Bldg. 20-19 Marunouchi 2-Chome, Nak Nagoya, Aichi 460 81-52-211-2011	78. Mr. Geoffrey Kuter E&A Environmental Consultants 95 Washington St. Ste. 218 Canton, MA 02021 617-575-9099
79. Mr. Jurkka Kuusipalo TUT Paper Converting P.O. Box 589 Tampere, FIN-33101 358-31-316-1797	80. Mr. Janne Kylma Helsinki University of Techno Dept. of Chem. Eng. Kemistintie FIN-02150, Espoo 358-0-4512626
81. Mr. Bob Larson Procter & Gamble 5299 Spring Grove Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45217 513-627-6489	82. Mr. Robert Lehmann Dow Corning Corp. CO3101 HES Midland, MI 48686-0994 517-496-8727
83. Mr. Bert Lemmes ORCA Avenue E. Mounier 83 1200, Brussels 322-772-9080	84. Mr. Robert Lenz University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA 01003 413-545-3060

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

85. Mr. Gary Loomis
G.L. Loomis & Associates, Inc
98 Skyline Drive
Morristown, MD 07960
201-538-4009

86. Dr. James Lunt
Cargill Inc.
2301 Crosby Road
Wayzata, MN 55391
612-742-5341

87. Ms. Renee MacDonald
University of Mass. at Lowell
1 University Ave.
Lowell, MA 01854
508-934-3712

88. Mr. Michael Mang
Dow Chemical
1707 Bldg.
Midland, MI 48674
517-636-1929

89. Dr. Robert Marchessault
McGill University
3420 University
Montreal, Quebec H3A2A7
514-398-6276

90. Mr. Ralph May
Morflex, Inc.
2110 High Point Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27403
910-292-1781

91. Ms. Jean Mayer
U.S. Army Natick RD&E Center
Kansas Street
Natick, MA 01760-5020
508-651-4405

92. Mr. Steve McCarthy
Univ. of Massachusetts at Lowell, MA 01854
508-934-3417

93. Mr. Steven Mojo
Galatech Partners
1187 Main Ave., Suite 2B
Clifton, NJ 07011
201-772-5007

94. Dr. Rolf-Joachim Muller
Gesellschaft fur Biotechnolog
Forschung M6H
Mascheroder Weg 1
D-38124, Braunschweig
49-05316181610

95. Dr. Wolf-Rudiger Muller
Universitat Stuttgart, ISWA
Bandtale 1
Stuttgart, D-70569
49-711-685-5411

96. Mr. Kunio Naito
Japan Corn Starch Co., Ltd.
Tamatsuura 1
Hekinan, Aichi 447
81-566-42-3131

97. Mr. Atsuyoshi Nakayama
Oska Natl. Research Institute
AIST
1-8-31 Midorigaoka
Ikeda, Osaka 563
81-7247-51-9522

98. Dr. Ramani Narayan
Michigan Bio Tech. Institute
3900 Collins Rd.
Lansing, MI 48910
517-336-4628

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

99. Dr. Hildeberto Nava Reichhold Chemicals 2400 Ellis Road Durham, NC 27703 919-990-8049	100. Dr. Jan Nieuwenhuis Purac Biochem b.v. P.O. Box 21 4200 AA Gorinchem 31-1830-41810
101. Mr. Thomas Nosker Rutgers University Ctr. for Plastics Recycling R Bldg. 4109 Livingston Campus New Brunswick, NJ 08903 908-445-3632	102. Mr. Gregory Ocnos Foster-Miller, Inc. 195 Bear Hill Rd. Waltham, MA 02154 617-290-0992
103. Mr. Takayuki Ohta Mitsubishi Chemical Corp. 5-2, Marunouchi 2-chome Chiyoda-bu Tokyo, 100 03-3283-6495	104. Mr. Petri Orava Helsinki University of Techno Dept. of Chemical Engineering Kemistintie FIN-02150, Espoo 358-0-4512624
105. Dr. Joshua Otaigbe Iowa State University 3053 Gilman Hall Ames, IA 50011 515-294-9678	106. Dr. Udo Pagga BASF Ecology Ludwigshafen, D-67056 49-627-6058148
107. Ms. Anna Palmisano Office of Naval Research 800 N. Quincy St. Arlington, VA 22217 703-696-2660	108. Mr. Mark Paster Monsanto Co. 800 N. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63167 314-694-7520
109. Prof. Dr. A.J. Pennings Univ. of Groningen Dept. of Polymer Chem. Nijenborgh 4 9749 Groningen, 003150634510	110. Dr. Timo Petaja Primalco Ltd. FIN-05200, Rajamaki 358-0-133-1372
111. Mr. Charles Pettigrew Procter & Gamble 6100 Center Hill Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45224 513-634-1527	112. Mr. Chiem Pham Medisorb Technologies 6954 Cornell Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45242 513-489-0294

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

113. Mr. George Poppe
Archer Daniels Midland
1001 Brush College Road
Decatur, IL 62521
217-424-2471

114. Dr. Hans Rast
Bayer AG, ZF-FBT
Building Q 18
Leverkusen, 51368
49-214-3072693

115. Mr. Mike Reddig
California Institute of Technn
Pasadena, CA 91125
818-395-4119

116. Ms. Robin Richards
Univ. of Mass. at Amherst
203 Morrill Science Ctr. IV N
Dept. of Microbiology, Box 35
Amherst, MA 01003-5720
413-545-2735

117. Dr. David Roesser
Natl. Starch & Chemical Co.
10 Finderne Ave.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
908-685-5508

118. Mr. Robert Ross
Donlar Corp.
6502 S. Archer Ave.
Bedford Park, IL 60501
708-563-9210

119. Ms. Mary Rothermich
Univ. of Mass. at Amherst
203 Morrill Science Ctr. IV N
Dept. of Microbiology, Box 35
Amherst, MA 01003-5720
413-545-2735

120. Mr. Alfred Rudin
University of Waterloo
Chemistry Dept.
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G
519-888-4524

121. Ms. Denise Rutherford
3M
3M Center Bldg. 201-2W-17
St. Paul, MN 55144
612-737-4021

122. Dr. Chris Ryan
Cargill, Inc.
P.O. Box 5698
Minneapolis, MN 55440-5698
612-742-5350

123. Mr. Lee Schechtman
Procter & Gamble Company
P.O. Box 538707
Cincinnati, OH 45253
513-627-2530

124. Mr. Thomas Scherer
Univ. of Mass. at Amherst
Dept. of Polymer Science
Amherst, MA 01003
413-545-4032

125. Mr. Jean Schoemans
SOLVAY S.A.
Rue de Ransbeak 310
112G, Bruxelles
32-2-264-32-61

126. Dr. Gunnar Schornick
BASF AG
Ludwigshafen, 67056
01147-621-60-46601

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

127. Mr. Paul Seib Kansas State University Schellenberger Hall Manhattan, KS 66502 913-532-4088	128. Dr. Johan-Fredrik Selin Neste Chemicals P.O. Box 310 06101, Porvoo 358-15-541-3421
129. Dr. Michael Sevfort University of Mass. at Lowell 1 University Avenue Lowell, MA 01854 508-934-3712	130. Mr. Devang Shah Monsanto Mail Zone AA3I 700 Chesterfield Vlg. Pkwy. St. Louis, MO 63017 614-537-6306
131. Ms. Kathleen Shaw National Research Council Montreal Road Building M-12 Ottawa, Ontario K1A0R6 613-991-1574	132. Ms. Stephanie Simmons Raychem Corp. MS 106/6873/300 Constitution Menlo Park, CA 94025 415-361-3395
133. Mr. Gilbert Smith IVAX Industries 1880 Langston St. Rock Hill, SC 29730 803-327-8870	134. Mr. Joseph Snook Bio Plastics 3900 Collins Road STE 1014 Lansing, MI 48910 517-336-4646
135. Mr. Zhengzhe Song Iowa State University 1335 Food Sciences Bldg. Ames, IA 50011 515-294-3066	136. Mr. Jose Sosa Fina Oil & Chemical Co. Research & Technology Ctr. P.O. Box 1200 Deer Park, TX 77536 713-884-0500
137. Dr. Mats Stading Chalmers University of Techno P.O. Box 5401 Goteborg, S-40229 4631355600	138. Dr. Alexander Steinbuchel Institut fur Mikrobiologie Corrensstrasse 3 Munster, D-48149 251-839821
139. Mr. Robert Stote U.S. Army RD&E Center Kansas St. Natick, MA 01760 508-651-4629	140. Dr. Anders Stralin Material Physics Molnlycke AB Research & Technology Goteborg, S-40503 46-317460806

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

141. Mr. Dennis Strunk
Hercules, Inc.
500 Hercules Rd.
Wilmington, DE 19808-1599
302-995-3410

142. Mr. Yuri Svirkin
University at Mass. at Lowell
1 University Avenue
Olney Bldg. Rm. 59
Lowell, MA 01854
508-934-3212

143. Mr. Graham Swift
Rohm & Haas Company
727 Norristown Road
P.O. Box 904
Spring House, PA 19477-0904
215-641-7756

144. Ms. Gabriele Taigel
Universitat Stuttgart, IKP
Pfaffenwaldring 32
Stuttgart, D-70550
49-711-685-2669

145. Mr. Hiroshi Takemura
Bio-Polymer Research Co., Ltd
KSP R&D B1015
3-2-1- Sakato Takatsu
Kawasaki, 213
81-44-819-3070

146. Ms. Irene Tan
Univ. of Mass. at Amherst
Polymer Science & Engineering
Amherst, MA 01003
413-545-3370

147. Mr. Hideyuki Tanaka
Japan Corn Starch Co., LTD.
Tamatsuura 1
Hekinan, Aichi 447
81-56-42-3131

148. Mr. Masato Taniguchi
New Business Development
Shimadzu Corp.
3 Kanda, Nishikicho, 1-Chome
Chiyodaku, Tokyo 101
81-3-3219-5810

149. Mr. Tim Tiernay
U.S. Feed Grains Council
1400 K St., NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20005
202-789-0789

150. Mr. Richard Tillinger
Orangic Waste Systems
3155 Research Blvd.
Ste. 1021
Dayton, OH 45434
513-253-6888

151. Dr. Arthur Tipton
Southern Bio Systems, Inc.
756 Tom Martin Drive
Birmingham, AL 35211-4467
205-917-2210

152. Dr. Yutaka Tokiwa
Natl. Institute of Bioscience
1-1, Higashi
Tsukuba
Ibaraki, 305
81-298-54-6089

153. Mr. Masayuki Tomida
Mitsubishi Chemical Corp.
Tukuba Research Ctr., Advance
8-3-1, Chuo, Ami
Inashiki, Ibaraki
81-298-87-1022

154. Mr. Angeles Torres
Av. San Jeronimo
No. 1363-6
10200,
525-595-82-78

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

155. Mr. Fu-Jya Tsai
Kimberly-Clark
2100 Winchester Rd.
P.O. Box 999
Neenah, WI 54957-0999
414-721-2081

156. Dr. Hiromi Uchida
Toyo Imk. Mtg. Co., Ltd.
27 Wadai
Tsukuba, Ibaraki 300-42
81-298-64-4501

157. Dr. John Van Velthuijsen
PURAC
P.O. Box 21
Gorinchem
, 4200 AA

158. Ms. Michel Vert
University Montpellier I
Faculty of Pharmacy - CRBA
15 Ave. Ch. Flahault
Montpellier, 34060
33-57418261

159. Mr. James Walls
Kendall Healthcare Prods. Co.
15 Hampshire St.
Mansfield, MA 02048-1139
508-261-8510

160. Mr. ShuHuan Wang
Iowa State University
1331 Food Sciences Bldg.
Ames, IA 50011
515-294-9763

161. Dr. Don Webb
Univ. of Rhode Island
Grad. School of Oceanography
Narragansett, RI 02882
401-792-6608

162. Dr. Christian Weitemeyer
Th. Goldschmidt AG
Training Dept.
Goldschmidtsfrabe 100
Essen, D-45127
020117301

163. Mr. Richard Weldon
Unitec Packaging
6625 Tomken Rd.
Suite 11
Mississauga, Ontario L5T 2C2
905-670-2429

164. Mr. Choi Weon-Jung
Yukong Limited
140-1, Wonchon-dong Yusung-Gu
Taejon
, 305-370
82-042-865-7661

165. Dr. Frank Werber
USDA-ARS-NPS
Rm. 221 Bldg. 005 Barc-West
Beltsville, MD 20705
301-504-5314

166. Mr. A.P. Wheeler
Clemson University
Biological Sciences
132 Long Hall
Clemson, SC 29634
803-656-1415

167. Mr. Cho Won-Young
Yukong Limited
140-1, Wonchon-Dong
Yusung-Gu
Taejon, 305-370
82-042-865-7655

168. Mr. Bin Wu
Univ. of Mass. at Amherst
PSE Dept.
Amherst, MA 01003
413-549-2855

PARTICIPANT LIST
4th Intl Wkshp on Biodegradable Plastics
New England Center
October 11, 1995

Participant List by Name

169. Mr. Wen Wu
Mobil Chemical Co.
102 North St.
Canandaigua, NY 14424
716-393-3322

170. Mr. Noboru Yamamoto
Osaka Natl. Research Institut
AIST
1-8-31 Midorigaoka
Ikeda, Osaka 563
81-727-51-9522

171. Mr. Motohide Yamazaki
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.
6650 Lusk Blvd.
Ste. B-106
San Diego, CA 92121
619-455-8500

172. Dr. Xinoming Yang
Planet Polymer
9985 Business Park Ave.
San Diego, CA 92131
619-549-5730

173. Dr. Mohammed Yasin
Aston University
CEAC Aston Triangle
Birmingham, B47ET
00441213593611

174. Mr. Jeff Yaung
P.O. Box 7-8
Haulein,

175. Mr. Jinwen Zhang
Univ. of Mass. at Lowell
111 Dracut St., #2
Lowell, MA 01854
508-934-3837

176. Mr. Su She Zhang
Iowa State University
1331 Food Science Bldg.
Ames, IA 50011
515-294-3066

177. Mr. Bruno de Wilde
Organic Waste Systems
Dok Noord 4
B-9000
Gent,
32-92330204

178. Dr. D. de Wit
ATO-DLO
P.O. Box 17
Wogeningen, 6700 AA
31317475028

179. Mr. G. van Vilsteren
ATO-DLO
Bornsesteeg 59
6708PD
0237075126